Community as Co-Educator



Joyce Ayala, student
Jesus Orellana, student
Daisy Perez, student
Cynthia Ramirez, student
Zandra Wagoner, Ph.D., University Chaplain

Summer Service Program

- * 10 weeks of full-time volunteer service during the summer
- Community Partners: Social Service Agencies, Religious Institutions, Camps, Social Justice Organizations
- ❖ Goals: Leadership Development, Spiritual Development, Interfaith Skills and Knowledge, Civic and Community Engagement Skills
- Community Engagement Course Credit:
 - * 1) Set goals (personal, service, spiritual or reflective goal, 2) Weekly journaling 3) Read two books of their choosing inspiring, spirituality, justice work, etc. 4) Final reflection paper on goals, growth/insights, & understanding of community engagement
- Community as Co-Educators



Interfaith Learning Outcomes

- * As a result of their experience at the University of La Verne, students will:
 - * Articulate a definition/concept of interfaith cooperation
 - Critically reflect upon and be able to <u>narrate</u> the story of their evolving <u>worldview</u>
 - Articulate how interfaith cooperation contributes to their professional and civic lives
 - Apply <u>strategies</u> that foster meaningful dialogue in a pluralistic community
 - Demonstrate an <u>appreciative understanding</u> of various worldviews that is historical and nuanced and built through <u>shared dialogue and common experiences</u>

Generations of Transforming Lives

Student Reflection #1, Junior



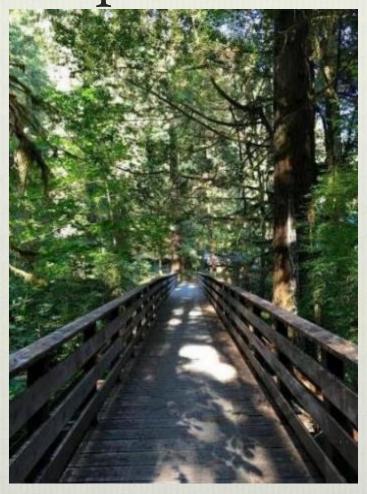
New Community Project: Sustainable Living Center Harrisonburg, VA

Student Reflection #2, Sophomore



Baha'i Community of Rancho Cucamonga, CA and Inland Valley Hope Partners, Pomona, CA

Student Reflection #3, Sophomore



Camp Myrtlewood, Oregon

Student Reflection #4, Senior



Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE) Los Angeles, CA

Take-Aways

- Community as Co-Educator can help institution/programs meet interfaith learning outcomes
- * According to our students
 - Being in proximity to worldview diversity clarifies and expands their own worldview
 - * Working with people and organizations who are putting their faith/values into action is inspiring, motivating & instructive (engages them in questions of meaning, purpose, activism, advocacy, peaceful living, justice work, compassion, etc.)
- Sustained engagement (rather than one day events) makes for deeper learning
- Reflective activities are essential (pre, during, and post)